Amendments to the claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A stable pharmaceutical formulation of erythropoietin containing tris-(hydroxymethyl)-aminomethane as stabilizer, whereby the formulation does not contain amino acids or human serumalbumin.

2. (Previously Presented) A stable pharmaceutical formulation of claim 1 comprising:

a) as a pH buffering agent a sodium phosphate buffer,

b) as stabilizer tris-(hydroxymethyl)-aminomethane in an amount of 10 to 200 mM, and

c) a pharmaceutical quantity of erythropoietin.

3. (Original) The formulation of claim 2 which comprises NaCl in an amount of 20-150 mM.

4. (Previously Presented) The formulation according to claim 3 wherein the amount of NaCl ranges from 50 to 100 mM.

5. (Previously Presented) The formulation of claim 1 which is an aqueous formulation.

6. (Previously Presented) The formulation of claim 2 wherein the pH buffering agent has the formula $Na_xH_yPO_4$ wherein x is 1 or 2 and y is 1 or 2 and the sum of x and y is 3 whereby the pH buffering agent is present in the pharmaceutical formulation in a range of 5 mM to 50 mM.

7. (Currently Amended) The formulation of claim 1 wherein the pH ranges from 5.9 to 6.8~~; preferably from 6.2 to 6.6~~.

8. (Previously Presented) The formulation of claim 1 wherein the tris-(hydroxymethyl)-aminomethane is present in an amount of 20 to 100 mM.

9. (Previously Presented) The formulation of claim 1 which contains also a non-ionic detergent in an amount ranging from 0.005 to 0.1 % w/v.

10. (Previously Presented) The formulation of claim 9 wherein the non-ionic detergent is a polysorbate.

11. (Original) The formulation according to claim 10 wherein the polysorbate is not produced from materials derived from animals and wherein the content of peroxide is lower than 1.00 µmol/g.

12. (Previously Presented) The formulation according to claim 1 which comprises further ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid in an amount of 0.1 to 0.5 mM.

13. (Previously Presented) The formulation of claim 10, wherein the non-ionic detergent is Tween 20 or Tween 80.

14. (New) The formulation of claim 7, wherein the pH ranges from 6.2 to 6.6.